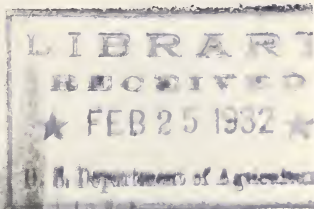


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# Imperial Delphiniums



A section of our Delphinium Gardens  
HOME OF IMPERIAL DELPHS

Propagated and grown under the personal direction of  
Elmer E. Healey, Delphinium Specialist

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DELPHIA DELL GARDENS  
" " PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON



PRIDE OF THE PACIFIC  
(actual size)

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This gigantic bloom was from a one-year-old seedling and when taken in 1930, was the largest bloom that I had ever heard of. Since then we have produced a number of blooms that were slightly greater in size but of different shades. Pride of the Pacific has a dark blue base with outer petals of solid lavender with dark bee. We believe that about 10% of seedlings from this plant come true to type.

## Foreword

For many years delphiniums were a hobby with me. Today they are a business. I have spent much in time, money and hard but pleasant work to accomplish what I have with delphs. By breeding and selection from thousands of blooms of only the highest types and again using the best for parents, I have today what is probably the finest garden of hybrid delphs in existence. Many gardens are bigger and more extensive, but with me it has been "quality" at all times. No inferior plant is allowed to bloom. Every plant has individual care and all seeds are fully ripened on the stalks and then picked by hand and one by one. All are cured under glass and as a result, our seed germinate almost 100 per cent. Our plants are carefully transplanted and as carefully dug and packed and we guarantee them to reach you in good growing condition. Likewise we guarantee our seeds to be satisfactory or will replace on request and without questions. While all our seeds are taken from double plants, not all seedling blooms will be double. A certain per cent are quite apt to be single, but very beautiful.

We have made honest comparisons with the plants obtained from the seed of other growers, particularly those from a noted grower of England—I do not wish to be unkind, so mention no names—and I find that Imperials produced stalks nearly two feet higher, larger flowers and many more colors.

From many sources we have glowing reports of what others have done with Imperials. Space does not permit me to mention many, but let me mention a few. The New York Botanical Gardens through a patron who presented them with Imperial seed reported "most satisfactory results." A lady in Oneonta, N. Y., reports winning four first prizes at two New York flower shows and says her blooms were pronounced as being better than anything shown at Atlantic City, the great flower show of the East. Please note the picture on page 5. It speaks volumes.

## *Delphinium Notes*

Have you had a fine delphinium bloom and then die without cause? It often happens. None can avoid it. It usually occurs in our daintiest types. Originally delphinium was a bi-annual. It is the "blood tendency" to revert to type that causes the plant to bloom and then die forever. I lost all my pink plants in this manner in 1931. Black spots on the leaves in Spring should be picked off and burned. They disappear as the plant grows. Borers some-

times attack delphs. There is no remedy but to cut the plant down. Do not dig it up as it will come on again stronger than ever. Keep all plants staked. Do not let more than six stalks grow. When plant is three feet high, remove all leaves and shoots half way up the stalk. Always use a pair of scissors to prune delphs so as not to "skin" the stalk. Water the plants only when needed and by irrigation along the plant. Never sprinkle. Insect pests seldom bother delphs. If they do, procure Black Leaf 40 and use as directed. Plants require 4 feet of space each way. If plants are cut back after blooming, they will bloom a second time. Let seed thoroughly ripen before picking. Pick just as pod opens else you will lose the seed. Do not allow any inferior plant to live. Dig it out else it may pollute your entire bed as far as seed is concerned.

Space does not permit me to give directions for planting seed. The method is very simple, however, and if you would follow our instructions, delphs are as easily raised from seed as any other plant; in fact, easier, for they will stand real abuse. We send full directions with all seed and you just can't fail. Directions sent with all plants, too.

### *Fertilizers*

It is best to fertilize your soil in the Fall. Rotted barn manure is best. Use lots of lime. You can't use too much. Fish meal or blood meal spaded into the soil is fine. 6-8-6 commercial fertilizer from your dealer is good, but use sparingly. Bone meal is useless except as a lime substitute.



In addition to those delphs pictured herein, we herewith present a few of our other named varieties. All are double and none are under seven feet in height. The general average of the blooms is about 2½-3 inches. All single plants have been destroyed.

*Empress*—Light lavender on pale blue base. White bee.

*Royal Robe*—A triple. Immense bloom of purple blended with indigo. No bee.

*Evening Glory*—Deep purple on dark blue. White bee. Very striking.

*Morning Glory*—Light lavender on dark lavender. Great white bee.

*Blue Bird*—Dark blue on dark blue, dark bee. A real sensation.



LADY EVELINE

I believe this is my favorite of all delphs. The stocks are fine, the flower head wonderful and the blooms are large. The color is a light lavender streaked with orchid on a base of royal blue. The face petals are bordered with a blue identical with the base, making it most striking. Every packet of seed will produce several of these fine plants and at least one will be in each dozen plants, based on averages.



The above is a picture taken in August, 1931, of an Imperial bed of delphs, from one-year plants, in the garden of an amateur grower living at Dover, Ohio. Note the tremendous size of stocks and blooms. They must be nearly ten feet high. It shows what Imperials will do in the Eastern States.



## A FEW EXCERPTS FROM CUSTOMERS

The plants were set the day of a wild snow storm—the next day the wind broke off all the tops. Bitter cold followed, yet only one plant died and 79 of the 100 have bloomed. Ten of them were taken to two flower shows and won ~~first~~ first prizes. Our leading nurseryman pronounced them the finest he had ever seen, not ~~excepting~~ excepting the great show at Atlantic City.

Mrs. A. Burdick, Oneonta, N. Y.

Received the delph plants this morning. They were in the best condition I have ever seen young plants. Not a single weakling. If they do not all grow it certainly is no fault of yours.

Mrs. J. J. Fletcher, Greensburg, Pa.

I now have a goodly number of plants from your seed. They have grown rapidly and are decidedly stronger than those I obtained from a package of \_\_\_\_\_ (a very prominent English delph specialist) strain planted earlier.

M. E. Alward, Succasunna, N. J.

The plants arrived in fine shape. They certainly are a fine looking bunch of plants. To see them you would think they were dug next door instead of in Washington. They have marvelous root systems.

A. Tompt, Gary, Indiana.

The plants arrived on a day that was 97° above and balance of week was hottest of the year. However, all survived and show fine growth and are very happy in their new home.

Mrs. E. Sigel, Virginia, Minn.

In April of this year you mailed me some of your Imperial Seed, which made a wonderful growth. \* \* \* I am going to plant another bed this Fall and would like to have the price on one ounce.

H. Hoyer, Webster Groves, Mo.

The plants made a marvelous growth, attaining height of 10 feet, with tremendous blossoms and great flower heads. They were quite the biggest sensation among flower lovers. People from far and near came to view the wonderful display.

\_\_\_\_\_, Dover, Ohio.

(Writer requested name be omitted. Sent on request.)

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*Nymph*—Old rose tinted lavender on bright blue. Dark bee. A bigger and sturdier delph than Millicent Blackmore, but similar.

*Herbert McNamee*—Solid violet. Dark bee. Great size. Very unusual.

*Margie*—Intense light blue on dark blue. White bee. Very large.

*Mary Albertson*—Lavender on light blue with large brown bee. Fine.

*Etta Jensen*—Lavender on wisteria. Brown bee. Striking. Rare.

*Jolly Elk*—Light purple on dark purple. White bee. Beautiful.

*U. S. A.*—Gigantic stalk and bloom. Lavender on lavender. White bee. Bloom larger than Pride of Pacific.

*Mona Lisa*—Dark blue base. Wistaria face and grey bee. Very appealing.

*Temptation*—Solid robin egg blue. White bee. You just feel you must break off a stalk when you see this.

*Percy Legg*. A large stock and flower of light blue on dark blue, the tip of each petal being wisteria.

*Golden Glean*—Cauary yellow, yellow bee. Not thrifty everywhere.

*Mt. Tacoma*—White with yellow bee.

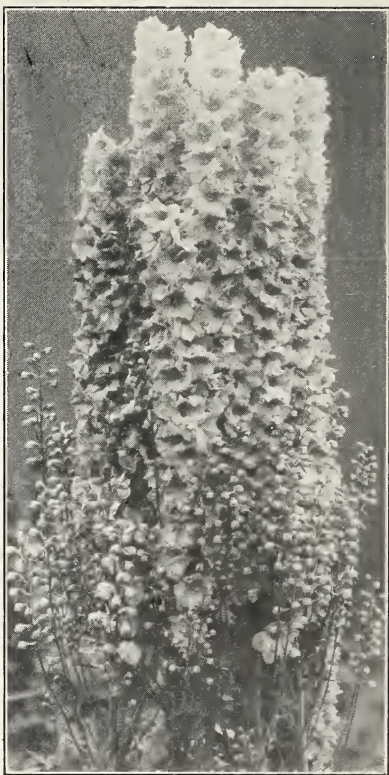
*Rosabelle*—A real, solid, old rose. Thrifty, beautiful, unusual, unique. Several customers report success in obtaining this color with seedlings, both seeds and plants.

Sixty more distinct named types or color combinations.

NOTE: Not all of the above are for sale as I do not have them in commercial quantities. However, all the seeds are in mixture and in most cases can be obtained separately. I advise you to pick a combination of at least four if you want seed from the named plants only.

### Price List

Packet of seed, garden mixture (400 seeds).....	\$ 2.00
Packet of selected named varieties (400 seeds).....	3.00
Packet of Rosabelle (100 seeds) with packet of garden run, \$3.50; with named varieties.....	4.00
One-year-old seedling plants, blooming size, per dozen, \$3; two dozen, \$5; fifty, \$10 per hundred	18.00
All named varieties, each.....	2.50
Unnamed specimens, very fine, 2 years old, each.....	1.00
4-5 inch field run plants, very nice, per 100.....	5.00



### EMPEROR

I do not believe this delph has an equal among delphiniums. Every spike is almost the same height and it blooms in great trusses right out to the end of the stalk, which will average about nine feet high. It is a double dark purple with very dark bee. Quite frequently it reproduces true, but some of the most amazing creations I have ever seen have been from this parent. All Emperor seed are taken from this one floral giant, so our supply is very limited.